(d) At present, there is no fertilizer Public Sector Undertaking registered as sick in the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

Subsidy on fertilizers and technical improvement

†2644. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government give subsidy on chemical fertilizers in the country;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that there is an estimation of constant increase in the amount of this subsidy from 2003-04 to 2007-08;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the estimation made regarding the amount of said subsidy during the years 2003-04 and 2007-08;

(d) whether it is a fact that this subsidy can be reduced by reducing the cost of production of chemical fertilizers in the country; and

(e) if so, whether it is also a fact that the cost of production can be reduced by making technical improvement in fertilizer production projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details of subsidy released for the years 2003-04 to 2006-07 and the estimated subsidy requirement for the year 2007-08 is given in the table below:-

Subsidy on Fertilizers

(Rs. in crores)

Years	Subsidy Released		Total subsidy disbursed	Liabilities Carryover to next year	Net incidence of subsidy for the year
	Urea	P&K Fertilizers			
2003-04	8509	3326	11835	2002	
2004-05	10637	5142	15779	3372	17149
2005-06	11749	6550	18299	5914	20841
2006-07	15354	10598	25952	8788	28826
2007-08*	27674	20306	47979		39191

* Estimated requirement

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The cost of production can be reduced by reducing the cost of inputs and improving the technical efficiency of the plants like conversion of existing Naphtha and FO/LSHS based units to gas and other technological changes/upgradations.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.